

MONROE CITY DEMOCRAT.

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An Explanation that Don't Explain.

Perhaps it is easy to explain why the Honorable County Court of Monroe county paid about \$500 more of the people's money to the Mercury and Appeal for printing and publishing the official ballot of the last election than the price named in the contract, but we must say we are greatly surprised at the explanation given by the Appeal and Mercury last week. The DEMOCRAT asked the Honorable County Court (not the Appeal and Mercury) for an explanation. It is only just and right that they should tell the people all about the transaction. If it is as the Appeal and Mercury say, the court has made a big mistake. For printing ALL the tickets and publishing the ENTIRE certificate of nomination, the Monroe City News bid \$1700 and at that time it was known almost to a certainty that there would be at least seven tickets. The Court knew, or should have known, that at least 70,000 ballots would be required and the seven tickets must be published in two newspapers. Why have the Paris papers bid on only four tickets and the other papers of the county bid on the entire work? For doing what the News would have done for \$47.00 the Appeal and Mercury each received (according to the Mercury) \$255.00. The Court erred in not binding the Appeal and Mercury to publish, pro rata, all over the four tickets which, as favorites, they let the Paris papers bid on, while with other papers it was the entire work. If the court desired the papers to bid on the work in order to save money for the people it should have let the contract to the lowest bidder. Then, again, the Court allowed the Paris papers \$1.00 per square for legal matter in the third publication and every one who is well enough posted to be fit for county judge should know that after the first insertion the legal rate is only 50 cents per square. Why then was \$1.00 per square allowed? Yes, an explanation that explains will be interesting reading. Neither the Mercury nor Appeal has given a satisfactory explanation. The people in this part of the county want to know about this. The Appeal suggests that had the Editor of the DEMOCRAT been one of the judges he would have allowed the bill. Bro. Blanton, you are mistaken. Had we been on the bench and had gone so far as to secure bids we would have let the work to the lowest bidder, which in this case was the Monroe City News, for, printing the ballots and one paper in which to publish the tickets. Then had the papers bid as did the Appeal and Mercury, on only four tickets we would have had all other tickets published pro rata and we would not have allowed \$1.00 per square for the third publication, but only 50 cents as provided by law.

L. S. C.

One of the pleasant social events of the season was the entertainment of the Ladies Social Club last Thursday evening by Mrs. Margaret Stewart. The members of the club permitted their husbands to enter the Holy of Holys and spend a very enjoyable evening at the six tables, which were prepared for the amusement of the evening. Nine lady friends who were not members were also honored with special invitations. All members, except Mrs. J. J. Rogers, who was detained at home by the illness of her husband were present.

Those who enjoyed the social games were A. Boulware and wife, B. O. Wood and wife, H. M. Clark and wife, J. L. Lyon and wife, J. H. McClintic and wife, Col. R. E. Lear and wife, Dr. T. Proctor and wife, A. Jaeger and wife, E. L. Anderson and wife, B. G. Moss and wife and Mesdames Dora Hallock, D. R. Davenport, F. L. Pettit, R. S. Nichols, Porter Patton, W. L. Reid and Misses Bessie Nelson, Mary Carson, Margaret Knight and Dr. W. B. A. McNutt.

During the evening refreshments which were enjoyed by all, were served. It was the first meeting of the club this winter and it whetted its appetite for another one right away.

Samoa And The Philippine.

The Samoan trouble is a foretaste of what is to come if the United States undertake an "imperial" policy.

The American interests in those islands can be protected without an occupation. The Berlin treaty has already cost the country more than the trade is worth and there is no reason to believe that the expense will grow lighter in future. To continue the present condition is to incur indefinite expense and expose the country to never ending bickering with Germany and Great Britain.

If America occupies the Philippines there will be no joint sovereignty or control but the danger of a clash with other nations will be even greater than in Samoa. Rival ambitions are concentrating in the neighborhood and we are sure to be drawn into the maelstrom sooner or later. Is it worth while to take territory of doubtful commercial value which necessitates large armaments and constant watchfulness? A policy of this kind may tickle our vanity but wherein is the moral of material profit?

The Samoan troubles are timely lessons in the folly of interfering in the affairs of people on the other side of the world.—Post-Dispatch.

Charleston, S. C. Jan. 20.—The birthday of Gen. Robt. E. Lee, is a state holiday in South Carolina. It was observed as such here Thursday. The special feature of the celebration was an address which was delivered under the auspices of the Daughters of the Confederacy at Hibernian Hall by Disop Elson Capers.

Friends and Customers:

I have to give up my present store room and will offer my entire stock of

Dry Goods, Clothing, Boots

and Shoes, Cloaks and Capes.

At Prime Cost to Reduce Stock.

Come Early while Stock is Complete.

J. B. ANDERSON.

A. F. Barr, of Hannibal, was in the city the first of the week.

There is another boy at Jno. Sullivan's and he is duly elated.

The supporters of the Peace Treaty say it shall not be amended. It must go through as it is or not at all.

Mr. Whitecotton is apparently a bigger Democrat than Mr. Stephens and proves it without the power to dispense patronage.—Editorial in Globe-Democrat.

A negro in La Grange slapped a white woman in the face and they fined him only \$2.—Quincy Herald. Twenty dollars may be the penalty in La Grange, but a \$20 bill would not pay his laying his hand on the shoulders of one in Monroe City.

The G D and Gen. Miles are evidently not working in double harness, for it says: "A wrongful charge made by a General needs attention along with the abusive language used by an other General who suffered from the accusation."

Not A Candidate.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Senator P. M. Cockrell smiled broadly to-day when the subject of his presidential boom was mentioned to him. "The announcement" he said "is of no significance. I am not a candidate for the presidency and have no intention of becoming one. I don't believe in using one office as a stepping-stone to another. I am very well satisfied in the Senate."

"At the best it was tasteless; at the worst it was nauseating."—Gen. Teddy Roosevelt. "It was not fit to eat."—Gen. Miles. When the Fourth Artillery returned from Santiago to Fort Adams last fall it was given a mess of canned roast beef. In four hours fifty members were in the hospital. A cat was confined in a room over night with several pounds of the beef. When the door was opened in the morning the feline was dead from eating the beef. Probably as the McKinley Horse Doctor said of the boys she "died from over feeding" and probably she died because she did not have the same medical attention the Artillery boys had.

The Other Side.

Gen. C. A. Whittier, who returned from Manila says: "Nothing in the world is easier of settlement than the situation in the Philippines. The Philippines have shown military ability and are not savages." If the General's estimate of the Philippines is correct then they are competent to govern themselves and this administration has no moral or civil right to place officers or an army over them.

Bloodshed at Samoa.

The Samoan followers of Malaafa and Malleton, rival claimants for the throne, have met, many were killed, breadfruit trees cut down, 400 houses burned and razed the towns on Upolu. Apia, the leading city was looted and burned. The chances are good for a good row to arise over the matter as the English and American representatives at Apia charge the German representative with exceeding his authority according to the Berlin treaty, consequently is largely responsible for the trouble. If it comes to a show down every one knows where England and America will stand.

Stand by Principle.

In his great speech against our taking the Philippine Islands, Senator Bacon, of Georgia, used these words which ought to sink deep into the hearts of every American:

"All of the great powers of the earth, the government of the United States is the only one that contends for the right in the people for self government. When they abandon in practice this principle, when they impose their dominion on an unwilling people, in the majestic march of free institutions, the hand upon the great dial of the clock of the world will have been set back 100 years."—Sheelina Democrat.

A Paris, Mo., belle writes to a relative in an adjoining town as follows: We is all well; and mother's got his Terrix; brother Tom is got the Hupin Kaugh, and sister Ann has got a babee, and I hope these few lines will find you the same. Write soon. Your affectionate kisser.—Ex.

To Our Patrons.

Several hundred people owe the DEMOCRAT from \$1.00 to \$10.00 each on subscription. To each one of these debtors the amount they owe is small. They all mean a large sum of money to us. Are you one of those who owe us? If so please place yourself in our position and we are confident that it will make you feel like you should pay. We do not have the time to see all personally or write those we cannot see and hope you will call promptly and get yourself square on our books.

After February 1, 1899, accounts over \$2 will be turned over to The Newspaper Collection Agency, of Chicago. This is not done through fear that the accounts are not collectible otherwise, but from the simple fact that we have paid the Agency to take charge of it, and in the matter they represent us. They act for us as though we had hired a bookkeeper to look after this branch of our business. It is not a "bad debt" agency but a legitimate company organized to assist newspaper men in attending to a branch of their affairs that is so often sadly neglected because the publisher has not the time to solicit the payment of accounts. Hoping you will receive this notice and the letters of our representatives in the kindly spirit in which they are sent, we are yours.

DEMOCRAT PRINTING CO.

Will Be Tried.

War Department, Washington, Jan. 15.—By direction of the President, a general court-martial is appointed to meet in this city at 10 a. m. Wednesday, the 25th day of Jan., 1899, or as soon thereafter as practicable for the trial of Brigadier Gen. C. P. Egan, Commissary Gen. of Subsistence, U. S. A. and such other persons as may be brought before it.

The Czar of the Russias talks peace, asks for peace commissions, but in the time of peace declares for war. The Russian Government has ordered six new war vessels with displacements of from 6,500 tons to 12,000 tons. Look out for the Bear of the North, he is a shrewd old fellow.